

ABSTRACT

A composite oxide suitable for an active material of a positive electrode for a lithium secondary cell which can be used in a wide range of voltage, has a large 5 electric capacity and excellent low temperature performance and is excellent in the durability for charge-discharge cycles and highly safe, a process for its production, and a positive electrode and a cell employing it, are presented.

10 The composite oxide is a lithium-cobalt composite oxide which is represented by the formula $\text{LiCo}_{1-x}\text{M}_x\text{O}_2$, (wherein $0 \leq x \leq 0.02$ and M is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Ta, Ti, Nb, Zr and Hf), and which has a half-width of the diffraction 15 peak for (110) face at $2\theta = 66.5 \pm 1^\circ$, of from 0.070 to 0.180°, as measured by the X-ray diffraction using $\text{CuK}\alpha$ as a ray source.